

Call For Abstracts

Abstracts are due October 13, 2006

The 25th National Meeting of the VA Health Services Research and Development Service (HSR&D) will be held in Washington, DC from February 21-23, 2007. HSR&D's Rehabilitation Outcomes Research Center (RORC) for Veterans with Central Nervous System Damage, located at the North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System in Gainesville, FL will host the meeting. The theme of the 2007 meeting, "Managing Recovery and Health Through the Continuum of Care," was selected because of HSR&D's commitment to examining the effects of organization, financing, and management of health care delivery on patient outcomes, from prevention to rehabilitation, across provider settings. It is especially timely with our returning Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom (OEF/OIF) veterans and their need for health care services through the continuum.

Investigators engaged in health services research focused on improving the health and health care of veterans are invited to submit abstracts for presentation at this meeting in one of the following subject areas:

- Access
- Clinical and System Improvements
- Cost-Effectiveness
- Function
- Healthy Communities
- Quality
- Satisfaction
- Statistical Methods

Selection criteria include quality, timeliness, and VA relevance, as well as relevance to the conference theme. Detailed instructions for electronic submission of abstracts will be available online in early September at www.hsrd.research.va.gov/about/national_meeting/2007/.

There are three different presentation formats at the meeting, each requiring different preparation and form of presentation. Investigators submitting abstracts are asked to indicate their preference for presentation format, but final decisions will be made by the Review Committee. Formats include:

POSTER SESSION

The poster session is a display consisting of an exhibit of material personally accompanied by the author for an assigned period of time (usually 2 hours). The display reports current research results that can be readily summarized in graphic form (e.g., tables, graphs, pictures).

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

The oral presentation session is a collection of 3-5 related research presentations. The presenter is allotted approximately 10 minutes for his/her presentation with five minutes at the end of each presentation for a question-and-answer exchange with the audience.

WORKSHOPS

The workshop session is a focused presentation on a substantive or methodological area of interest to health services researchers. Workshops are usually 90 minutes in duration and include both didactic presentation and participant involvement, with a focus on specific knowledge or skills. There will be two sources of workshop sessions: invited sessions and those competitively selected from the abstracts submitted for the meeting.

Each abstract will be evaluated by 3 expert reviewers, who will be blinded to authors' identities. Abstracts with the highest average scores and greatest relevance to the meeting theme will be selected. All decisions regarding abstract acceptance/rejection will be made by the Review Committee and will be final. **Authors will be notified of decisions by November 15, 2006.**

Limited travel funds are available and will be provided for only one person per accepted abstract.